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The Files - NB-93

26 March 1959

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Trip Report - Modification of 24-Hour Breakdown Recorder, CB-5

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1. On 20 March 1959 a meeting was held with representatives of the [REDACTED] at their plant in New Haven, Connecticut. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the possibility of modifying three CB-5 recorders to meet an urgent operational requirement by 1 May 1959. (Delivery schedules call for 1 each by 20 April and 2 each by 20 May 1959.) Those present were:

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2. Under Contract NB-93, Task Order 2, [REDACTED] developed the CB-5 24-Hour Breakdown Recorder. It was felt by GTE that their requirement could be met by modifying the CB-5 recorder.

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3. The requirement calls for a recorder transport capable of 6-8 hours of record time in a package smaller than the CB-5, the critical dimension being the width. The width of the present CB-5 is 3-3/8". The new requirement stipulates a width no greater than 2-1/8" at the center of the package and 2" at one end. Requirements for this recorder do not call for record or playback amplifiers nor for any bias for recording. Furthermore, it will not be necessary to provide batteries. A power connector and a record head input-output connector are required. Most of the other requirements of this recorder are the same as those for the CB-5, the only other exception being the operating temperature range of the equipment. It is only necessary that this recorder operate at normal room temperatures since it is being designed for one time use and these will be the conditions of its environment.

4. The contractor reviewed the drawings and physical layout of the CB-5 recorder and after several hours of discussion recommended that we try to modify the CB-5 as there would be too many parts changes required. It was felt by the contractor that the only way to meet this requirement in the limited time available would be to fabricate a completely new recorder. This new recorder would be based on the design principles of the CB-5 recorder.

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5. The contractor felt that he could meet the delivery date of 20 April but it would require calling in additional help on a part-time basis. Also, it would be necessary to assign a certain amount of premium pay time (20%). With this taken into consideration, the contractor gave us a ball-park estimate of the cost of the task. He estimated that the cost of 3 units would be roughly \$15,000. [REDACTED] said that he would review the requirements of the task over the weekend and give us a decision on Monday morning as to whether or not he could do the job in the allotted time. At that time, he would also provide a cost breakdown.

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